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(57) Abstract

Disclosed herein are analogues of the luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LH-RH), which are potent antagonists of LH-RH. These peptides inhibit the release of gonadotropins from the pituitary in mammals, including humans and possess anti-tumor activity. Formula (I): X-R¹-R²-R³-Ser-R⁵-R⁶(AY₂)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ represents peptides which are within the scope of this invention and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein R¹ is D-Phe, D-Phe(4Cl), D-Nal(1) or D-Nal(2), R² is D-Phe or D-Phe(4HI), R³ is D-Trp, D-Phe, D-Phe(4HI), D-Nal(1), D-Nal(2) or D-Pal(3), R⁵ is Tyr or Arg, R⁶ is D-Lys or D-Orn, HI is fluoro, chloro or bromo, X is a lower alkanoyl group of 2-5 carbon atoms, A is a diaminoacyl residue having formula (II), where m is 0 or 1, n is 0 or 1, Y is hydrogen or Y¹ or Y², wherein Y¹ is an acyl group derived from straight or branched chain aliphatic, alicyclic carboxylic acids having from 3 to 12 carbon atoms or aromatic carboxylic acid of 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms, Y² is carbamoyl or alkyl-substituted carbamoyl group having formula (III): H-(CH₂)_n-NH-CO-, where n is 0-3.

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LHRH ANTAGONISTS

This invention was made with Government support under grant Nos. 40003 and 40004, awarded by the N.C.I. (NIH). The U.S. Government has certain rights in 10 this application.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to novel peptides having an inhibitory effect on the release of gonadotropins by the pituitary in mammals, including humans and 15 having an influence on the growth of cancerous tumors in humans. More specifically, the present invention relates to antagonistic analogs of luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH), which have the structure:

pGlu-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Gly-Leu-Arg-Pro-Gly-NH₂

salts thereof, and to pharmaceutical compositions and methods of use pertaining to 20 these analogs.

DISCUSSION OF THE PRIOR ART

Hypothalamic luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) controls pituitary synthesis and secretion of gonadotropins (LH and FSH) that are essential for the 25 regulation of the synthesis of sex steroids in the gonads.

Over 2500 new, synthetic analogs of LHRH (agonistic and antagonistic analogs) have been reported since its discovery and structural elucidation (A.V. Schally et al., *Fertil. Steril.* 22, 703-721, 1971) in view of their expected medical 30 applications (M.J. Karten and J.E. Rivier, *Endocrine Rev.* 7, 44-66, 1986; A. Dutta, *Drugs of the Future*, 13 761-787, 1988). LHRH antagonists compete with

endogeneous LHRH at the hypophysial receptors and directly inhibit the secretion of gonadotropins. They have significant therapeutic advantages over the agonists in that they almost immediately inhibit gonadotropin secretion without inducing an initial rise in gonadotropins, as is characteristic of LHRH agonists. Antagonists of LHRH 5 have been used in endocrinology and gynecology to control fertility and treatment of precocious puberty, as they block ovulation in the female and suppress spermatogenesis in the male. The use of antagonists in oncology for treatment of hormone-sensitive tumors is very recent, but most promising (A.V. Schally et al., in: GnRH analogs in cancer and in human reproduction. Basic Aspects, (edited by B.H. 10 Vickery and V. Lunenfeld), Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht/Boston/London, Vol. 1, pp. 5-31, 1989.)

The most interesting antagonists to date have been compounds whose structure is a modification of the structure of LHRH. Systematic modification of the 15 molecule showed the contribution of the individual amino acids and their side chains to the biological activity. The earlier most potent antagonists frequently had a cluster of hydrophobic D-amino acid residues at the N-terminal and strongly basic, hydrophilic D-amino acids at position 6 and/or 8 (D.H. Coy et al., *Endocrinology*, 100 1445-1447, 1982; A. Horvath et al., *Peptides* 3 969-971, 1982; J. Rivier et al., *J. Med. 20 Chem.* 29, 1846-1851, 1986). However, these potent, hydrophilic antagonists caused transient systemic edema of the face and extremities and inflammation at the injection site when injected subcutaneously into rats at 1.25 or 1.5 mg/kg body weight. These analogues, which are mast cell secretagogues, release histamine and, when given intravenously to rats at a dose of 1.25 mg/kg body weight, can also cause cyanosis 25 and respiratory depression leading to cell death (Smith et al., *Contraception* 29, 283-289, 1984; Morgan et al., *Int. Arch. Allergy Appl. Immunology* 80, 70-75, 1986). To overcome these side effects but maintain the high antiovulatory potency of the antagonists, research was directed towards the change of the basicity of the side chains at the region of 5-8 amino acids. Hocart et al. (*J. Med. Chem.* 30, 1910-1914, 30 1987) found that the substitution of alkylated Lys derivatives in position 6 did not produce any significant changes in the histamine releasing activity of the analogues whereas similar substituents at position 8 reduced the histamine release 10-fold.

Detirelix [Ac-D-Nal(2)¹,D-Phe(4Cl)²,D-Trp³,D-hArg(Et)₂⁶,D-Ala¹⁰] proved to be a powerful antagonist (L.A.Adams et al., J.Clin. Endocrinol. Metab. 62, 58, 1996) but has hypotensive and bradycardic side effect (C.H. Lee et al., Life Sci., 45, 67, 1989). Antagonists named Nal-Glu-GnRHant retain ovulation inhibition potency and have

5 markedly less in vitro histamine-releasing activity (J.E. Rivier et al., J.Med. Chem. 29, 1846-1851, 1986), but local allergic response in some human subjects remains a concern. Introduction of N⁶-nicotinoyl-lysine into positions 5,6 and N⁶-isopropyl-lysine into position 8 led to a compound with high antiovulatory and negligible histamine releasing activity (Ljungqvist et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 85 8236-10 8240, 1988). The modification by Bajusz et al. (Int. J. Pept. Prot. Res., 32 425-435, 1988) i.e. incorporation of citrulline and homocitrulline into position 6 produced peptides having no edematogenic and anaphylactoid side effects and high inhibitory effect, as exemplified by Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Cit-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂. Some of these compounds were found to have inhibiting effect on growth

15 of various animal tumor models in vivo and to suppress growth of different human cancer cell lines (A.V. Schally, in General Gynecology, Vol 6., Parthenon Press, Carnforth, England, 1989, pp. 1-20; Szende et al., J. Natl. Cancer Inst., 82, 513-517, 1990; Szende et al., Cancer Research), 50, 3716-3721, 1990; E. Korkut et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. US, accepted for publication) and thus might be potential therapeutic

20 agents in the treatment of different cancers (prostate, breast, endometrial, ovarian and pancreatic).

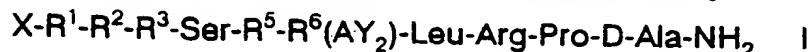
Many human tumors are hormone dependent or hormone-responsive and contain hormone receptors; e.g., mammary carcinomas contain estrogen, 25 progesterone, glucocorticoid, LHRH, EGF, IGF-I. and somatostatin receptors. Peptide hormone receptors have also been detected in acute leukaemia, prostate-, breast-, pancreatic, ovarian-, endometrial cancer, colon cancer and brain tumors (M.N. Pollak, et al., Cancer Lett. 38 223-230, 1987; F. Pekonen, et al., Cancer Res., 48 1343-1347, 1988; M. Fekete, et al., J. Clin. Lab. Anal. 3 137-147, 1989; G. Emons, et al., Eur. J. 30 Cancer Oncol., 25 215-221, 1989). Our recent findings (M. Fekete, et al., Endocrinology, 124 946-955, 1989; M. Fekete, et al. Pancreas 4 521-528, 1989) have revealed that both agonistic and antagonistic analogs of LHRH bind to human breast

cancer cell membranes, and also to the cell membranes of pancreatic cancer although the latter tumor thought to be hormone-independent. It has been demonstrated that biologically active peptides such as melanotropin (MSH), epidermal growth factor, insulin and agonistic and antagonistic analogs of LHRH (L. 5 Jennes, et. al., Peptides 5 215-220, 1984) are internalized by their target cells by endocytosis.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention refers to novel antagonistic decapeptide analogues of hypothalamic LHRH which possess high antiovulatory and antineoplastic activity, and are free of anaphylactoid side effects and are believed to be free of endemetogenic 5 effects.

The compounds of this invention are represented by Formula I



wherein

10 R¹ is D-Phe, D-Phe(4Cl), D-Nal(1) or D-Nal(2),

R² is D-Phe or D-Phe(4HI),

R³ is D-Trp, D-Phe, D-Phe(4HI), D-Nal(1), D-Nal(2) or D-Pal(3),

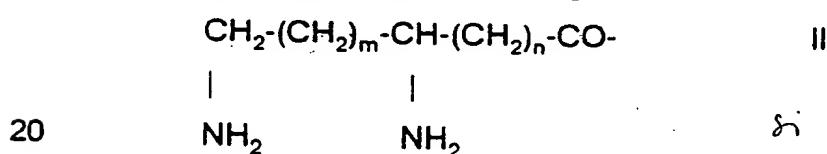
R⁵ is Tyr or Arg,

R⁶ is D-Lys or D-Orn,

15 HI is fluoro, chloro or bromo

X is a lower alkanoyl group of 2-5 carbon atoms,

A is a diaminoacyl residue having the formula



where

m is 0 or 1,

n is 0 or 1,

25 Y is hydrogen or Y¹ or Y²,

wherein

Y¹ is an acyl group derived from straight or branched chain aliphatic or alicyclic carboxylic acids having from 3 to 12 carbon atoms or aromatic carboxylic

30 acid of 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms,

Y² is a carbamoyl group or C₁-C₅ alkyl carbamoyl group having the formula

Si m = n = 0 \rightarrow 2,3-diaminopropionic
Si n = 0, m = 1 \rightarrow 2,4-diaminobuty-
nique

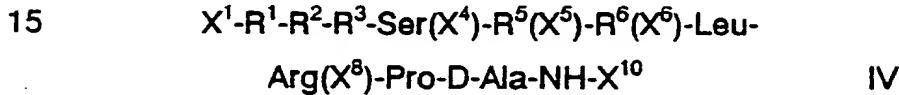


where n is 0-3.

5 The therapeutically acceptable salts of the compound of Formula I are included within the scope of this invention.

The peptides of Formula I can be synthesized by classical solution peptide synthesis or preferably, solid phase technique using methylbenzylhydrylamine 10 (MBHA), benzhydrylamine (BAH) resin or 2-methoxy-4-alkoxybenzyl alcohol (Sasrin) resin with a suitable amido linker.

Such method provides intermediate peptides and/or intermediate peptide-resins of Formula IV:



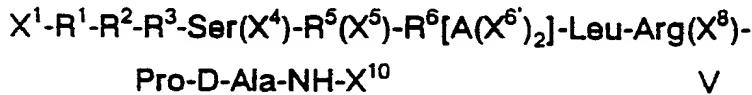
wherein

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , and R^6 are as defined above,

X^1 is a lower alkanoyl group of 2-5 carbon atoms,

20 X^4 is hydrogen or a protecting group for the Ser hydroxyl group,
 X^5 is hydrogen or a protecting group for the Tyr phenolic hydroxyl group, or a protecting group for the guanidino group of Arg,
 X^6 is hydrogen or a protecting group for the Lys, Orn,
 X^8 is hydrogen or a protecting group for the Arg guanidino group,
25 X^{10} is hydrogen or linking (spacer) group incorporated into a resin.

To insure the selective reactions on the diamino-alkanoyl side chain of R^6 to get peptides of Formula I, intermediate peptides of Formula V are prepared by solid phase method as peptides of Formula I with the exception that suitably protected 30 $\text{R}^6[\text{A}(\text{X}^6)_2]$ is incorporated in place of $\text{R}^6(\text{X}^6)$ in position 6:



wherein

X^1 , R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , A are as defined above, X^4 , X^5 and X^8 are as defined above but not hydrogen,

X^6 is hydrogen or a protecting group of the diamino side chain,

5 X^{10} is a linkage group incorporated into a resin.

To prepare compounds of Formula I wherein Q is $A(Y^1)_2$ or $A(Y^2)_2$ four different reaction schemes have been utilized:

10 a) Intermediate peptides of Formula IV (wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 and X^1 are as defined above, X^4 , X^5 , X^6 , X^8 and X^{10} are hydrogen) are reacted with preformed $A(Y^1)_2$ or $A(Y^2)_2$, wherein A , Y^1 and Y^2 are defined as above.

15 b) Alternatively, compounds of Formula V (wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 and X^1 are as defined above, X^4 , X^5 are side chain protecting groups, X^6 is hydrogen and X^{10} is linkage group of the resin) are used as intermediate peptides. Compounds of Formula I, wherein Y is Y^1 produced by direct acylation of intermediate peptide of Formula V with an acyl-halide or -anhydride, followed by splitting the peptides from the resin and removing the protecting groups in one step.

20

c) According to another method, $R^6[A(Y_2)]$ is prepared in advance by reacting a suitable protected R^6 with A then with Y, or with preformed $A(Y)_2$ and followed by incorporation into the peptide during the solid phase peptide synthesis.

25 d) The two free amino groups of A of intermediate peptides of Formula V (wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , A and X^1 are as defined above, X^4 , X^5 , X^6 , X^8 and X^{10} are hydrogen) are acylated with acyl-imidazole.

30 The invention also provides methods for splitting off one or more protecting group(s) and/or cleaving the peptides from the resin support, for purifying a synthesized peptide and converting it into a nontoxic, pharmaceutically acceptable salt, when the salts retain the desired biological activity of the parent compound.

The peptides of this invention inhibit the ovulation of female rats at dosages of less 0.15-1.0 μ g/kg body weight, when administered s.c. at about noon on the day of proestrus. These peptides have a long acting effect in suppressing the LH, FSH and testosterone levels when they are injected into castrated male rats at doses of 5 0.5-2.0 micrograms/kg body weight. Peptides 7 and 8 induced significant decrease in the LH levels for more than 24 hours ($p < 0.01$). Forty-eight hours after injection, both antagonists showed significant inhibition ($p < 0.05$) at a dose of 5 μ g. At that time, Peptide 8 was active even at a dose of 1.25 μ g ($p < 0.05$). The majority of the compounds of Formula I show high affinity for membrane receptors of rat pituitaries 10 and humane breast cancers. In cytotoxicity tests, in cultures of human breast and prostate cancer cell lines, some analogues powerfully inhibit the 3 H-thymidine incorporation.

The inhibition of growth of Dunning R3327H prostate cancer has been 15 demonstrated after treatment of rats with Peptide 8. Tumor doubling time was increased to 42 days comparing to the 12 days of the control group. The body weight did not change during the treatment, however the weights of testis, seminal vesicles and ventral prostate were greatly reduced in the group which received Peptide 8. The results indicated that Peptide 8, released from sustained delivery 20 systems can effectively suppress the growth of prostate cancers.

A pharmaceutical composition is provided by admixing the compound of Formula I with pharmaceutically acceptable carrier including microcapsules (microspheres) or microgranules (microparticles) formulated from poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) for 25 sustained delivery.

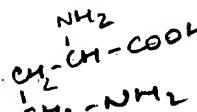
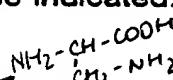
DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

For convenience in describing this invention, the conventional abbreviations for the amino acids, peptides and their derivatives are used as generally accepted in the 30 peptide art and as recommended by the IUPAC-IUB Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature [European. J. Biochem., 138, 9-37 (1984)].

The abbreviations for the individual amino acid residues are based on the trivial name of the amino acid, e.g. pGlu is pyroglutamic acid, His is histidine, Trp is tryptophan, Ser is serine, Tyr is tyrosine, Lys is lysine, Orn is ornithine, Leu is leucine, Arg is arginine, Pro is proline, Gly is glycine, Ala is alanine and Phe is phenylalanine.

5 Where the amino acid residue has isomeric forms, it is the L-form of the amino acid that is represented unless otherwise indicated.

Abbreviations of the uncommon amino acids employed in the present invention are as follows: A₂pr is 2,3-diaminopropionic acid, A₂bu is 2,4-diaminobutyric acid, 10 Nal(2) is 3-(2-naphthyl)alanine, D-Pal(3) is 3-(3-pyridyl)alanine, Phe(4Cl) is 4-chlorophenylalanine.



Peptide sequences are written according to the convention whereby the N-terminal amino acid is on the left and the C-terminal amino acid is on the right.

15

Other abbreviations used are:

AcOH acetic acid

Ac₂O acetic anhydride

Boc tert.butoxycarbonyl

20 Bz benzoyl

Bzl benzyl

Car Carbamoyl

CHC Cyclohexanoyl

DCB 2,6-dichlorobenzyl

25 DCC N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide

DCM dichloromethane

DIC N,N'-diisopropylcarbodiimide

DMF dimethylformamide

EtCar Ethyl Carbamoyl

30 FMOC Fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl

HOBt 1-hydroxybenzotriazole

HOPCP pentachlorophenol

HPLC high-performance liquid-chromatography

iPrOH iso-propylalcohol

LAU lauryl

MeCN acetonitrile

5 MeOH methyl alcohol

OSu N-hydroxy succinamide ester

PRL propionyl

TEA triethylamine

TFA trifluoroacetic acid

10 Tos 4-toluenesulfonyl

Z(2-Cl) 2-chloro-benzyloxycarbonyl

Z benzyloxycarbonyl

Compounds which are especially preferred embodiments of the present

15 invention have the structure:

X-R¹-R²-R³-Ser-R⁵-R⁶(AY₂)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂

1

wherein,

R¹ is D-Nal(2),

R² is D-Phe(4Cl),

20 R³ is D-Trp or D-Pal(3),

R⁵ is Tyr or Arg,

R⁶ is D-Lys or D-Orn,

X is acetyl.

A is A₂pr or DL-A₂bu,

25 Y is Y¹ or Y²,

wherein

Y¹ is formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, i-butyryl, cyclohexanoyl or benzoyl,

Y² is carbamoyl, N-methyl-carbamoyl or N-ethyl-carbamoyl.

1. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
2. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Ac)₂]-Leu-Arg-ro-D-Ala-NH₂,
3. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
4. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(EtCar)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
5. 10. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(CHC)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
6. 15. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Bz)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
7. 20. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
8. 25. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(Ac)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
9. 30. 10. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(EtCar)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
11. 15. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
12. 20. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(PRL)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
13. 25. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(CHC)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
14. 30. 15. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(Bz)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
15. 35. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(Ac)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,
16. 40. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

17. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(EtCar)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

18. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(PRL)₂]-Leu-Arg-

5 Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

19. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(LAU)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

20. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(Bz)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

10 21. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(CHC)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

22. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

23. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Ac)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-

15 NH₂,

24. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

25. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂,

20 26. Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂.

The LHRH antagonizing properties of the compounds of this invention make the compounds useful in human and veterinary practice. For instance, the 25 compounds of Formula I find use as agents for relieving the complications from the undesirable physiological availability of pituitary gonadotropins in a mammal. Such complications include precocious puberty; hormone dependent tumors such as malignant and benign prostate tumors, e.g. secondary amenorrhea; endometriosis and ovarian and mammary cystic diseases in both in animals and humans. The 30 compounds of Formula I are also useful for regulating ovulation, thus rendering them useful agents for controlling fertility, e.g. as precoital or postcoital contraceptives, for synchronizing estrus in livestock and for improving the "rhythm" method. Also, the

compounds are useful for regulating the human menopausal gonadotropin, follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) and luteinizing hormone (LH) during perimenopausal and postmenopausal periods in women. As they suppress the spermatogenesis and testosterone level in male they may be potential use for male contraception.

5

The peptides of the invention are often administered in the form of pharmaceutically acceptable, nontoxic salts, such as acid addition salts. Illustrative of such acid addition salts are hydrochloride, hydrobromide, sulphate, phosphate, fumarate, gluconate, tannate, maleate, acetate, citrate, benzoate, succinate, alginat , 10 pamoate, malate, ascorbate, tartrate, and the like.

Microcapsules or microparticles of these peptides formulated from poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) may be the preferred sustained delivery systems. Intravenous administration in isotonic saline, phosphate buffer solutions or the like may be also 15 used.

The pharmaceutical compositions will usually contain the peptide in conjunction with a conventional, pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier. Usually, the dosage will be from about 1 to 100 micrograms of the peptide per kilogram of the 20 body weight of the host when given intravenously. Overall, treatment of subjects with these peptides is generally carried out in the same manner as the clinical treatment using other agonists and antagonists of LHRH.

These peptides can be administered to mammals intravenously, sub-25 cutaneously, intramuscularly, intranasally to achieve LHRH antagonizing and antitumor effect. Effective dosages will vary with the form of administration and the particular species of mammal being treated. An example of one typical dosage form is a physiological saline solution containing the peptide which solution is administered to provide a daily dose in the range of about 0.01 to 0.05 mg/kg of body weight.

30

Although the invention has been described with regard to its preferred embodiments, it should be understood that changes and modifications obvious to

one having the ordinary skill in this art may be made without departing from the scope of the invention, which is set forth in the claims which are appended thereto. Substitutions known in the art which do not significantly detract from its effectiveness may be employed in the invention.

5

ASSAY PROCEDURES

The compounds of this invention exhibit powerful effect on gonadotropin release by the pituitary, bind to tumor cell membranes and inhibit [³H]thymidine incorporation into DNA in cell cultures.

10

(a) LH-RH-inhibiting activities

Ability of compounds to influence LH release in vitro is assayed by using a superfused rat pituitary cell system [S. Vigh and A. V. Schally, Peptides, 5 Suppl. 1, 241-247 (1984); V. Csernus and A.V. Schally, in Neuroendocrine Research Methods,

15 Ed. B. Greenstein, Harwood Academic Publishers, London, (1990)].

LHRH inhibiting effect of peptides is assayed as follows: each peptide is perfused through the cells for 9 min (3 ml perfusate) at 1 nM. Immediately after that, a mixture containing the same concentration of peptide and 3 nM LHRH is 20 administered for 3 min. This was followed by four consecutive infusions of 3 nM LHRH for 3 min (1 ml perfusate) at 30 min intervals (30, 60, 90, 120 min). LH content of the 1 ml fractions collected is determined by radioimmunoassay (RIA).

(b) In vivo antiovulatory activity of peptides is determined in 4-day-cycling rats 25 as described [A. Corbin and C. W. Beattie, Endocr. Res. Commun., 2, 1-23 (1975)].

(c) Receptor binding.

Affinity of peptides to rat pituitary and human breast cancer cell membranes is determined by using labelled LHRH and [D-Trp⁶]LHRH. The assay is carried out 30 similarly to that described by T. Kadar et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 85, 890-894 (1988) and M. Fekete et al., Endocrinology, 124, 946-955 (1989).

(d) **In vivo effect on LH and FSH** I v Is was measured as described by L. Bokser et al. (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. US, accepted for publication.) Castrated male rats weighing 350-410 grams anaesthetized with urethane were injected subcutaneously with Peptide 7 and 8 in doses of 1.25 μ g and 5.0 μ g. Blood samples were taken 5 from the jugular vein before injection and 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 24 and 48 hours after the administration of peptides. Control animals were injected only with saline. LH and FSH levels were determined by specific RIAs.

(e) **Cytotoxicity test.**

10 Ability of peptides of Formula I to inhibit incorporation of [³H]thymidine into DNA of monolayer cultures the human mammary tumor cell line MCF-7 is assayed as described [V. K. Sondak et al., Cancer Research, 44, 1725-1728 (1984); F. Holzel et al., J. Cancer Res. Clin. Oncol. 109, 217-226 (1985); M. Albert et al., J. Cancer Res. Clin. Oncol. 109, 210-216 (1985)].

15

(f) **In vivo antitumor effect**

Inhibition of growth of cancerous tumors in rats with compounds of Formula I was tested as described by Szende et al. (J. Natl. Cancer Inst., 82, 513-517, 1990; Szende et al., Cancer Research), 50, 3716-3721, 1990), by A.V. Schally and T. 20 Redding (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. US, 84, 7279-7282, 1987), and by E. Korkut et al. (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. US, accepted for publication). Peptide 8 was dissolved in 45% aqueous propylene-glycol and was administered at a dose of 25 μ g/day from an ALZET minipump to male rats bearing the androgen-dependent well-differentiated R3327 Dunning rat prostate adenocarcinoma. Tumors were measured weekly with 25 microcalipers and tumor volumes were calculated. Duration of the treatment was 8 weeks, changing the minipumps at the end of the 4th week.

Synthesis of peptides

30 The peptides of the present invention may be prepared by any techniques that are known to those skilled in the peptide art. A summary of the techniques so available may be found in M. Bodanszky, *Principles of Peptide Synthesis*, Springer-

Verlag, Heidelberg, 1984. Classical solution synthesis is described in detail in the treatise "Methoden der Organische Chemie" (Houben-Weyl), Vol. 15, Synthese von Peptiden, Parts I and II, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1974. The techniques of exclusively solid-phase synthesis are set forth in the textbook of J. M. Stewart and

5 J. D. Young, Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis, Pierce Chem Co., Rockford, IL, 1984 (2nd ed.) and in the review of G. Barany, et al., Int. J. Peptide Protein Res. 30, 705-739, 1987.

The basic peptides of this invention were synthesized by solid-phase method, 10 but in some cases the side chain at position 6 were built in by "classical" procedure. In the solid phase synthesis, suitable protected amino acids (sometimes protected peptides) are added stepwise in C-->N direction once the C-terminal amino acid has been appropriately attached (anchored) to an inert solid support (resin). After completion of a coupling step, the N-terminal protecting group is removed from this 15 newly added amino acid residue and the next amino acid (suitably protected) is then added, and so forth. After all the desired amino acids have been linked in the proper sequence, the peptide is cleaved from the support and freed from the remaining protecting group(s) under condition that are minimally destructive towards residues in the sequence. This must be followed by a prudent purification and scrupulous 20 characterization of the synthetic product, so as to ensure that the desired structure is indeed the one obtained.

Preferred Embodiment of Synthesis

A particularly preferred method of preparing compounds of Formula I in the 25 present invention is solid phase synthesis, but they can also be synthesized by combining the solid phase and classical (solution) methods. In this particularly preferred method, the α -amino function of the amino acids is protected by an acid or base sensitive group. Such protecting groups should have the properties of being stable to the conditions of peptide linkage formation, while being readily removable 30 without destruction of the growing peptide chain or racemization of any of the chiral centers contained herein.

The peptides of Formula I are preferably prepared from intermediate peptides of Formula IV:

$X^1\text{-}R^1\text{-D-Phe(4HI)\text{-}R}^3\text{-Ser(X}^4\text{)\text{-}R}^5\text{(X}^5\text{)\text{-}R}^6\text{(X}^6\text{)\text{-}Leu\text{-}}$

$\text{Arg(X}^8\text{)\text{-Pro\text{-}D\text{-}Ala\text{-}NH\text{-}X}^{10}\text{)}$

IV

5 wherein

R^1 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , HI and X^1 are as defined hereinabove,

X^4 is a protecting group for the hydroxyl group of serine, such as benzyl (Bzl) or 2,6-dichlorobenzyl (DCB). The preferred protecting group is Bzl.

10 X^5 is benzyl, 2-Br-benzyloxycarbonyl or DCB (preferred) to protect the phenolic hydroxyl of R^6 Tyr;

is Tos (preferred), nitro or methyl-(t-butylbenzene)-sulfonyl to protect the guanidino group if R^5 is Arg,

15 X^6 is a protecting group for side chain amino group of Lys or Orn, such as Z, Z(2-Cl) (preferred) or FMOC,

X^8 is a protecting group for the Arg and may be nitro, methyl-(t-butylbenzene)-sulfonyl or Tos (preferred),

15 X^{10} is an amide to protect the benzhydryl or methylbenzhydryl group incorporated into resin support; for synthesis of peptide amides, the commercially available benzhydrylaminopolystyrene-2% divinylbenzene copolymer is preferred.

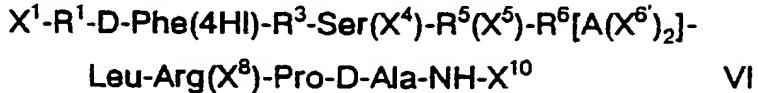
The solid phase synthesis of the peptides of Formula IV is commenced by the attachment of Boc-protected D-Ala to a benzhydrylamine resin in CH_2Cl_2 . The coupling is carried out using DIC or DIC/HOBt at ambient temperature. After the 25 removal of the Boc group, the coupling of successive protected amino acids (each is applied in a 3 molar excess) is carried out in CH_2Cl_2 or in mixtures of DMF/ CH_2Cl_2 depending on the solubility of Boc-amino acids. The success of coupling reaction at each stage of the synthesis is preferably monitored by the ninhydrin test as described by Kaiser et al. [Anal. Biochem. 34, 595 (1970)]. In cases where incomplete coupling 30 occurs, the coupling procedure is repeated before removal of the alpha-amino protecting group prior to the reaction with the next amino acid.

After the desired amino acid sequence of intermediate peptides of Formula IV has been completed, the N-terminal acetylation is carried out using $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}/\text{TEA}$, and the peptide-resin is then treated with liquid HF in the presence of anisole to yield the peptides of Formula IV wherein X^4 , X^5 , X^6 , X^8 , and X^{10} are hydrogens.

5

These peptides are converted into peptides of Formula I (wherein Y is Y^1) by carbodiimide coupling method with preformed 2,3-bis-benzoyl-diaminopropionic acid, 2,3-bis-cyclohexanoyl-diaminopropionic acid, 2,3-bis-lauroyl-diaminopropionic acid, 2,4-bis-benzoyl-diaminobutyric acid, 2,4-bis-cyclohexanoyl-diaminobutyric acid, 2,4-10 bis-lauroyl-diaminobutyric acid.

To produce compounds of Formula I, wherein Y^1 is lower alkanoyl and Y^2 is lower carbamoyl, the second synthetic method is preferred because of the high hydrophilicity of the substituents on the lysine⁶ side chain, i.e. for example 2,3-bis-15 formyl-diaminopropionic acid. These kinds of peptides are prepared from compounds of Formula V:



wherein

20 R^1 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , HI and X^1 are as defined hereinabove,

X^4 is a protecting group for the hydroxyl group of serine, such as benzyl (Bzl) or 2,6-dichlorobenzyl (DCB). The preferred protecting group is Bzl.

25 X^5 is benzyl, 2-Br-benzyloxycarbonyl or DCB (preferred) for protecting the phenolic hydroxyl of R^5 Tyr; or

is Tos (preferred), nitro or methyl-(t-butylbenzene)-sulfonyl to protect the guanidino group if R^5 is Arg,

X^6 is an amino protecting group for the diaminoacyl side chain of Lys, such as Z, Z(2-Cl) or FMOC,

30 X^8 is suitable for protecting the Arg group; such as nitro, methyl-(t-butylbenzene)-sulfonyl or Tos (preferred),

X^{10} is an amide protecting benzhydryl or methylbenzhydryl group incorporated into resin support; for synthesis of peptide amides, the commercially available benzhydrylamino-polystyrene-2% divinylbenzene copolymer is preferred.

5 Preparation of all protected intermediate peptides of Formula V is carried out by solid phase peptide synthesis, as described for peptides having the Formula IV, but a suitably protected $R^6(A)$ residue, preferably $Boc-R^6[A(FMOC)_2]$, is incorporated in position 6 instead of $Boc-R^6X^6$. The protecting group on A is chosen to be selectively removable, while the other protecting group stay intact during the removal
10 of the two X^6 . This step can be solved for example by the cleaving FMOC blocking groups with piperidine supplying peptides of Formula Va on resin:



wherein

$X^1, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6$ and A are as defined hereinabove, and X^4, X^5, X^6 and X^{10} are
15 not hydrogen.

The free amino groups at position 6 are then acylated with formic acid- Ac_2O mixture, or with halides or anhydride of acetic acid, propionic acid or pivalic acid to give compounds of Formula I, wherein Y is Y^1 after deprotection.

20

Splitting off the protecting groups and cleavage of the peptides from the resin occurred after the formation of the side chain on R^6 .

In an alternate synthesis, fully deprotected peptides of Formula Vb are
25 obtained by deprotection of intermediate peptides of Formula V in which preferably $Boc-R^6[A(Z)_2]$, incorporated in position 6 instead of $Boc-R^6[A(FMOC)_2]$:



wherein

$X^1, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6$ and A are as defined hereinabove.

30

The process for producing peptides of Formula I with $A(Y^2)_2$ side chain comprises reacting a peptide of Formula Vb with a source of suitable cyanate,

suitably metal-cyanates, e.g. potassium cyanate or an N-alkyl isocyanate, e.g. N-ethyl-isocyanate.

An easy way to produce compounds of Formula I wherein Y is Y¹ is the direct 5 acylation of the diamino residue at position 6 of peptides of Formula Vb with equivalent amount of acyl-halide, with AcO₂/HCOOH mixture, with acetyl- or propionyl-imidazyl. The reactions are straightforward giving single compounds despite of the presence of free OH group on serine⁴.

10 An alternative synthetic method for preparing peptides of Formula I is incorporating the suitable protected bis-substituted-diaminoacyl-R⁶ instead of protected R⁶. The synthesis is carried out exactly as mentioned above except that Boc-R⁶(AY₂) is incorporated into the peptide instead of Boc-R⁶(X⁶) at the fifth step of the synthesis.

15

PURIFICATION OF PEPTIDES

Crude synthetic products (>500 mg) were purified on a BECKMAN Prep-350 preparative HPLC system equipped with a DYNAMAX MACRO column (41.4 x 250 mm) packed with spherical C18 silica gel (pore size: 300 Å, particle size: 12 µm) 20 (RAININ Inc., Co., Woburn, MA) (Column A). Purification of smaller amount of peptides (<250 mg) were performed on a BECKMAN HPLC system (Model 142) using a DYNAMAX MACRO (21.2 x 250 mm) column packed with the same medium, as above (Column B). To purify peptides weighing <50 mg, a reversed phase, 10 x 250 mm VYDAC Protein & Peptide C₁₈ column (pore size: 300 Å, particle size: 5 25 µm) (ALTECH, Deerfield, IL) (Column C) or a 10 x 250 mm W-POREX C₁₈ column (pore size: 300 Å, particle size: µm) (Phenomenex, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA) (Column D) were used. Columns were eluted with solvent system i consisting of (A) 0.1% aqueous TFA and (B) 0.1% TFA in 70% aqueous acetonitrile usually in a gradient mode. Column eluant was monitored with UV detectors operating at 230 or 30 280 nm. Chromatography was effected at ambient temperature.

ANALYTICAL HPLC

Analysis of crude and purified peptides was carried out with a Hewlett-Packard Model 1090 liquid chromatograph equipped with a diode array detector set for 220 5 and 280 nm and a reversed phase 4.6 X 250 mm W-POREX C₈ column (pore size: 300 Å, particle size: 5 µm) (Column E). A flow rate of 1.2 ml/min of solvent system i or solvent system ii consisting of (A) 0.05M ammoniumacetate pH=7.0 and (B) 0.05M ammoniumacetate in 65% aqueous acetonitrile was maintained and the separations were performed at room temperature.

10

AMINO ACID ANALYSIS

Peptide samples are hydrolyzed at 110 °C for 20 hr in evacuated sealed tubes containing 4 M methane-sulfonic acid. Analyses are performed with a Beckman 6300 amino acid analyzer.

15

PREPARATION I

bis-benzoyl-2,4-diaminopropionic acid	Ia
bis-benzoyl-2,4-DL-diaminobutyric acid	Ib

To the solution of 140 mg (1 mmol) DL-A₂pr in 2 ml 10% NaOH, 1.5 ml of 25% 20 benzoylchloride in dioxane was added in dropwise at 4°C. The reaction mixture was mixed for 24 hours at 4°C then the title compound was extracted with ethylacetate and purified by recrystallization from chloroform-hexane. (Bz)₂-DL-A₂bu was prepared similarly but using DL-A₂bu instead of A₂pr. Retention factors are 0.60 and 0.69, respectively, on silicagel TLC plate with solvent system ethylacetate-pyridine-acetic 25 acid-water 60-20-6-11.

PREPARATION II

bis-cyclohexanoyl-2,3-diaminopropionic acid	IIa
bis-cyclohexanoyl-2,3-DL-diaminobutyric acid	IIb

30 140 mg (1mmol) DL-A₂pr.HCl in 2 ml of 10% NaOH was stirred for 24 hours at room temperature with 1.6 ml (3 mmol) 25% cyclohexanecarbonyl chloride in

dioxane added by dropwise. The title compound was purified by solvent extraction and recrystallized from benzene-hexane.

Preparation IIb was made in a similar manner except using 191 mg (1 mmol)

5 DL-2,4-diaminobutyric acid.2HCl instead of 2,3-diaminopropionic acid. The retention factors are 0.69 and 0.79, when chromatographed on silicagel TLC in solvent system as described in preparation I.

PREPARATION III

10	Boc-D-Lys(A ₂ pr)-OH	IIIa
	Boc-D-Lys(DL-A ₂ bu)-OH	IIIb

To a DMF solution (4 ml) of a mixed anhydride, prepared from Z₂-A₂pr (0.72 g) and ethyl-chloroformate (0.2 ml) in the presence of TEA (0.28 ml), 4 ml DMF containing 0.5 g N^a-Boc-D-Lys and 0.3 ml TEA were added with stirring at 0 °C. After

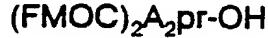
15 two hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated to an oil under reduced pressure, dissolved in water and ethylacetate and acidified with 1M KHSO₄. The organic phase was washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated under vacuum. 0.5 g of this protected dipeptide was dissolved in 25 ml 50% aqueous acetic acid and hydrogenated at room temperature for 2 hours in the presence of 0.1 g Pd/C (10%).

20 The reaction mixture was filtered and evaporated to dryness. The resulting white product was rubbed with diethylether, filtered and dried.

Preparation IIIb was prepared in a similar manner but acylating with Z₂-DL-A₂bu instead of Z₂-A₂pr.

25

PREPARATION IV



0.5 g (3.55 mmol) 2,3-diaminopropionic acid was dissolved in 7.1 ml N NaOH and 2.75 g (15% excess) FMOC-OSu in 25 ml acetone was added dropwise while

30 stirring the mixture at room temperature. After 4 hours stirring, 3.55 ml N H₂SO₄ was added, the reaction mixture was filtered, washed with 3x10 ml water and air-dried on the funnel. The product was recrystallized from ethylacetate-petroleum ether. The

purity of the white precipitate (weighted 1.9 g) was checked on silica gel TLC with the following solvent system: ethylacetate-pyridine-acetic acid-water = 120:20:6:11 (R_f =0.62-0.66).

5

PREPARATION V

Boc-D-Lys[(FMOC)₂A₂pr]-OH

0.73 g (3 mmol) N^a-Boc-D-Lys-OH was suspended with 0.42 ml (3mmol) TEA in 3 ml 50% aqueous DMF. Then 1.8 g (3.2 mmol) (FMOC)₂A₂pr (Preparation VIII) and 0.37 g HOBt was dissolved in 3 ml DMF and was mixed with 0.5 ml DIC at 0°C.

10 After 10 min this solution was added to the Boc-D-Lys-OH suspension. On stirring at room temperature, the reaction mixture became clear in 1 hour. Pouring the mixture into 30 ml water, yielded a yellowish voluminous precipitate which crystallized by rubbing with diethyl ether and recrystallized from MeOH-DCM-hexane solution (1.2 g). The title compound proved to be homogeneous on silicagel TLC (R_f =0.68-0.72)

15 developed with solvent system ethylacetate-pyridine-acetic acid-water 960:20:6:11.

PREPARATION VI

Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ VIaAc-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ VIb20 Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ VIc

Boc-D-Ala was attached to 1 g (about 1 mmol) neutralized benzhydrylamine resin containing 1 meq NH₂ (Advanced Chemtech, Louisville, KY) by means of N,N'-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC)/1-hydroxybenztriazole (HOBt) mediated coupling for about 2 hours at room temperature in dichloromethane or DMF. The coupling of 25 successive protected amino acids were carried out in a reaction vessel for manual solid phase synthesis using 2.5-3.0 molar excess of protected amino acids in accordance with the scedule as follows:

STEP	REAGENTS AND OPERATIONS	MIXING TIMES (Min)
1	<u>Coupling</u> : Boc-amino acid in	
5	DCM or DMF depending on the solubility of the particular protected amino acid, plus DIC	60-90
2	iPrOH (or DMF then iPOH) wash	2
3	DCM wash	2
4	iPrOH wash	2
10 5	DCM wash (three times)	2
6	<u>Deprotection</u> : 50% TFA in DCM twice)	5 and 25
7	DCM wash	2
8	iPrOH wash	1
9	<u>Neutralization</u> : 10% TEA in DCM	2
15 10	iPrOH wash	1
11	<u>Neutralization</u> : 10% TEA in DCM	2
12	iPrOH wash	1
13	DCM wash (three times)	2
20	After attaching Boc-Ala to the resin, the following amino acids were then coupled successively by the same cycle of events: Boc-Pro, Boc-Arg(Tos), Boc-Leu, Boc-D-Lys[Z(2-Cl)], Boc-Tyr(Bzl), Boc-Ser(Bzl), Boc-D-Pal(3), Boc-D-Phe(4Cl), and Boc-D-Nal(2).	
25	Using Boc-Arg(Tos) instead of Boc-Tyr(Bzl) leads to the peptide resin having the structure of Boc-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-D-Lys(Zl-(2-Cl)]-Leu-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-RESIN. Likewise, changing Boc-D-Pal(3) to D-Trp in position 3 resulted in the peptide-resin Boc-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-D-Lys(Zl-(2-Cl)]-Leu-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-RESIN.	
30	The decapeptide-resin (3-3.5g) containing free N-terminal amino group was treated with 50-fold excess acetic anhydride and TEA in 30 ml of DMF for 30 min. The	

acetylated peptide-resin then was washed with DMF (3 times), iPrOH (3 times) and DCM (3 times) and dried in vacuo. Removal of the protecting groups and cleavage of the decapeptide from the resin was carried out by treatment of 1.5-2 g of material with liquid HF (30 ml), anisole (3 ml) at 0 C for 45 min. The hydrogen fluoride was 5 eliminated under a stream of nitrogen and the peptide was precipitated by addition of diethylether. The peptide was then extracted with 50% aqueous acetic acid (3 times), separated from the resin by filtration, diluted with water and lyophilized.

Crude peptides were purified on Column A with solvent system *j* using a linear gradient of 40-70%B in 60 min for Preparation VIa and 20-60%B in 80 min for Preparation VIb and VIc. HPLC retention times of Preparation VIa (837 mg), VIb (540 mg) and VIc (521 mg) are 25.5 min, 11.4 min and 18.8 min, respectively, when using solvent system *j* in linear gradient mode (30-60%B in 30 min). Amino acid analysis gave the expected results.

15

PREPARATION VII

**Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser(Bzl)-Tyr(Bzl)-D-Lys(A₂pr)-
-Leu-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-resin** VIIa

Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-D-Lys(A-pr)-

-Leu-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-resin **VIIb**

Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-D-I vs (A-pr)-

-L-Ala-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-resin

Operation of Villa is carried out by a strict system of checks and balances.

Preparation of *via* is carried out by solid phase peptide synthesis in accordance with the procedures set forth in the schedule of Preparation VI. The 25 decapeptide is built up in ten successive steps coupling Boc-D-Ala to 1 g benzhydrylamine resin first, followed by Boc-Pro, Boc-Arg(Tos), Boc-Leu, Boc-D-Lys[A₂pr(FMOC)], Boc-Tyr(Bzl), Boc-Ser(Bzl) Boc-D-Pal(3), Boc-D-Phe(4Cl) and Boc-D-Nal(2). N-Terminal acetylation is performed with a 50-fold excess of acetic anhydride in DMF for 30 min. FMOC protecting groups on A₂pr were removed by 30 treating the peptide resin with 20 ml 50 % piperidine in DMF for 18 h and then washed with DMF (3 times), iPrOH (3 times) and DCM (3 times) and kept in a desiccator till the next reaction.

Proceeding in a similar manner but incorporating Boc-Arg(Tos) in place of Boc-Tyr(Bzl) at position 5, Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-D-Lys(A₂pr)-Leu-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-resin (Preparation VIIb) is prepared. Using Boc-D-Trp instead of Boc-D-Pal(3) at position 3 and Boc-Arg(Tos) instead of Boc-Tyr(Bzl) at position 5 results in Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-D-Lys(A₂pr)-Leu-Arg(Tos)-Pro-D-Ala-NH-resin (Preparation VIIc).

PREPARATION VIII

10	Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys(A ₂ pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH ₂	VIIIa
	Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys(A ₂ pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH ₂	VIIIb
	Ac-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys(A ₂ pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH ₂	VIIIc

15 The peptides of VIIIa, VIIIb and VIIIc were prepared by the solid-phase technique on benzhydrylamine HCl resin in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Schedule of Preparation VI.

Thus, the resin (0.5 g containing about 0.5 mmole NH₂) is treated during the ten 20 successive coupling cycles with Boc-D-Ala, Boc-Pro, Boc-Arg(Tos), Boc-Leu, Boc-Lys[A₂pr(Z)₂], Boc-Tyr(Bzl), Boc-Ser(Bzl), Boc-D-Pal(3), Boc-D-Phe(4Cl), Boc-D-Nal(2) and finally with Ac₂O/imidazole to yield a peptide-resin which is then treated with HF and anisole to afford the free, D-Lys(A₂pr)-containing peptide of VIIIa.

25 Proceeding in a similar manner but incorporating Boc-D-Trp in place of Boc-D-Pal(3) at position 3, the free, D-Lys(A₂pr)-containing peptide of VIIIc was prepared (500 mg).

Alternatively, Preparation VIIIa, VIIIb and VIIIc are obtained from Preparation 30 Vla, Vlb and Vlc by acylation with Boc₂-A₂pr in carbodiimide reaction in the presence of HOBt. Boc groups are then removed by treatment with 50% TFA in DCM, the peptide was precipitated with diethyl-ether, filtered and dried in vacuo.

Crude peptides were purified on Column A with a gradient of solvent system i (20-60% B in 80 min). HPLC retention times of VIIa, VIIb and VIIc are 15.1 min, 10.1 min and 17.5 min, respectively, when using solvent system i in a linear gradient mode (30-50% B in min).

PREPARATION IX

Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys(DL-A₂bu)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂

Preparation IX is prepared by solid phase peptide synthesis as described for Preparation VIIA with the exception that Boc-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(Z)₂] is built into the peptide chain in position 6 instead of Boc-D-Lys[A₂pr(Z)₂]. HPLC retention time of Preparation IX is 10.4 min when using solvent system i in a linear gradient mode (35-50% B in 15 min).

EXAMPLE 1

The peptide Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(Ac)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (8) was prepared on solid phase by acetylating the free amino groups on A₂pr substituted Lys side chain of Preparation VII (0.3 g) with 470 μ l 5 acetyl-imidazole in the presence of 700 μ l TEA. The peptide was then deprotected and split from the resin in one step using liquid HF as described for Preparation VI. The crude peptide was purified by HPLC on Column B eluted with solvent system i using linear gradient (25-50% B in 45 min).

10

EXAMPLE 2

The syntheses of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Bz)₂-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (13) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Bz)₂-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (6) were accomplished by the coupling of Preparation VIb and 2,3-bis-benzoyl-diaminopropionic acid (Preparation Ia) with 15 carbodiimide. A solution (200 μ l DMF) of 7 mg Preparation Ia and 3.1 mg HOBr was cooled to 0 °C then reacted with 3.5 μ l DIC for 15 min. 36.3 mg Preparation VIb dissolved in 200 μ l DMF, neutralized with TEA and mixed with the above prepared active ester solution and kept at 0 °C for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was directly injected onto the Column C and purified by eluting with solvent system i to afford 20 compound 13 (17.6 mg) and 6 (18 mg), respectively.

Following the same procedure, but acylating Preparation VIb and VIc with A₂pr(Ac)₂, Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[(A₂pr(Ac)₂)-Leu-Arg-ro-D-Ala-NH₂ (2) (19.1 mg) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Ac)₂]-25 Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (23) (17.2 mg) were prepared.

Acylating Preparation VIb and VIa with 2,3-bis-cyclohexanoyl-diminopropionic acid (Preparation IIa) gave 14.8 mg Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(CHC)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (5) and 15.3 mg Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-30 Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(CHC)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (12), respectively.

Reacting Preparation VIa with 2,4-bis-benzoyl-diaminobutyric acid (Preparation Ib) with 2,4-bis-cyclohexanoyl-diaminobutyric acid (Preparation IIb) or with 2,4-bis-lauroyl-diaminobutyric acid resulted respectively in peptides Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(Bz)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (20) (16.6 mg), Ac-D-5 Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(CHC)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (21) (14.7 mg) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(LAU)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (19) (8 mg), respectively.

EXAMPLE 3

10 The synthesis of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (16) was carried out by carbamylating the two free amino group containing intermediate peptide (Preparation IX). 37 mg Preparation IX was dissolved in 100 μ l DMF and the solution buffered by addition of 15 μ l TEA and 30 μ l acetic acid. To this mixture, solution of 48 mg potassium cyanate in 100 15 μ l water was added and the reaction kept at ambient temperature for 48 hours. The title peptide (15.8 mg) was isolated by HPLC purification on Column C using solvent system i.

20 Proceeding in a similar manner but using Preparations VIIa, VIIb and VIIc as precursor, the following peptides were prepared: Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (7) (12.2 mg), Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (1) (14.7 mg) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Car)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (22) (11.2 mg).

25

EXAMPLE 4

Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(PRL)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (18) was prepared by propionylation of the two free amino groups on the substituted Lys side chain of Preparation IX. 37 mg intermediate peptide was 30 dissolved in 100 μ l DMF, neutralized with 7 μ l TEA and reacted with 50 μ l preformed propionyl-imidazole reagent for 24 hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture

was subjected to HPLC on Column C eluted with solvent system i. Lyophilized fractions containing pure peptide yielded 13 mg of the title peptide.

Compounds Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(Ac)₂]-Leu-5 Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (8) (14.1 mg) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(Ac)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (14) (12.8 mg) were prepared by the method described in this example but using Preparation VIIia and Preparation IX as a starting compound, respectively, and acetyl-imidazole as an acylating agent.

10

EXAMPLE 5

The peptide Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(PRL)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (11) was synthesized by solid phase peptide synthesis on benzhydrylamine resin (1 g ≈ 1 mmol), as described for Preparation VI. The decapeptide was built up by successive coupling of the following protected amino acids (or derivatives): Boc-Ala, Boc-Pro, Boc-Arg(Tos), Boc-Leu, Boc-D-Lys [A₂pr(PRL)₂], Boc-Tyr(Bzl), Boc-Ser(Bzl), Boc-D-Pal(3), Boc-D-Phe(4Cl) and Boc-D-Nal(2). After acetylation of the N-terminal amino group, removal of the protecting groups and cleavage of the decapeptide from the resin were carried out as described for Preparation VI. The crude, lyophilized peptide was purified on Column C.

15

EXAMPLE 6

The synthesis of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (3) was carried out by formylation of free amino groups of an intermediate peptide (VIIia) with preformed mixed anhydride from formic acid and 20 acetic anhydride. To prepare this anhydride, 960 µl (10 mmole) acetic anhydride was left to react with 390 µl (10 mmole) formic acid at 0 °C for 30 min. 37 mg Preparation VIIia was dissolved in 100 µl DMF, 7 µl TEA and 6.7 µl (50 µmole) of above prepared reagent was added and the mixture was kept at 0 °C for 1 hour. Purification of Peptide 3 was achieved by HPLC on C Column C eluted with solvent system i and the 25 yield was 22.8 mg.

Peptides Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (10), Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (15) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(For)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (24) were synthesized in the same way with 5 the exception that Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys(A₂pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (Preparation VIIa), Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys(DL-A₂bu)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (Preparation IX) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Trp-Ser-Arg-D-Lys(A₂pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (Preparation VIIc) were used as starting compounds.

10

EXAMPLE 7

The synthesis of the peptide Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(EtCar)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ was accomplished by reacting intermediate peptide Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys(A₂pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ 15 (Preparation VIIb) with N-ethylisocyanate. 36 mg (20 μ mole) at intermediate peptide dissolved in 100 μ l DMF, pH was adjusted with 14 μ l (100 μ mole) TEA and the peptide was reacted with 3.5 μ l N-ethylisocyanate at 0 °C for 10 hours. The reaction mixture was injected onto Column C and eluted with solvent system i to afford the desired peptide (21.8 mg).

20

The syntheses of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[A₂pr(EtCar)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (9) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys[DL-A₂bu(EtCar)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (17) were accomplished by the same manner but using Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys(A₂pr)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (Preparation VIIa) and Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Tyr-D-Lys(DL-A₂bu)-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ (Preparation IX), respectively.

Table 1.

Preparation and HPLC purification methods for LH-RH antagonist

30

No. of Peptide	Synthetic method	Gradient (%B/min) for purification	Retention time (min)
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	1.	3	25 - 50 / 40	30 - 45 / 15	12.5
	2.	2	30 - 45 / 45	35 - 50 / 15	10.0
	3.	6	20 - 50 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	8.7
5	4.	7	25 - 45 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	11.0
	5.	2	30 - 55 / 50	45 - 60 / 15	12.0
	6.	2	35 - 55 / 60	45 - 60 / 15	9.5
	7.	3	30 - 60 / 60	35 - 50 / 15	8.2
	8.	1 & 4	25 - 50 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	12.5
10	9.	7	25 - 45 / 50	40 - 55 / 15	10.6
	10.	6	30 - 45 / 45	35 - 50 / 15	10.3
	11.	4	30 - 55 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	14.8
	12.	2	25 - 45 / 50	55 - 70 / 15	11.9
	13.	2	25 - 45 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	12.3
15	14.	4	25 - 45 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	12.8
	15.	6	25 - 40 / 45	35 - 50 / 15	12.3
	16.	3	35 - 50 / 45	35 - 50 / 15	11.8
	17.	7	25 - 50 / 50	35 - 50 / 15	13.9
	18.	4	30 - 50 / 40	35 - 65 / 15	14.7
20	19.	2	50 - 90 / 60	80 - 95 / 15	12.0
	20.	2	35 - 50 / 45	45 - 60 / 15	8.0
	21.	2	50 - 80 / 60	50 - 65 / 15	10.9
	22.	3	30 - 50 / 40	45 - 60 / 15	8.0
	23.	2	35 - 55 / 40	45 - 60 / 15	9.3
25	24.	6	35 - 55 / 40	40 - 55 / 15	12.0
	25.	Prep. VIIIa	20 - 50 / 60	35 - 50 / 15	9.3
	26.	Prep. IX	20 - 50 / 60	35 - 50 / 15	9.1

Table 2.

Antiovulatory activity and affinity of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-R³-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂Pr(Y)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ peptides for membrane receptors of human breast cancer 5 cells

No. of Peptide	Peptide		% Blockade of Ovulation		Affinity Constant	
	R ³	Y	0.75μg	1.5μg	K _a 1	K _a 2
					nM ⁻¹	μM ⁻¹
10 1	D-Pal(3)	Car			7.07	3.15
2	D-Pal(3)	Ac			16.35	0.32
3	D-Pal(3)	For			NB	
4	D-Pal(3)	EtCar			9.71	0.05
5	D-Pal(3)	CHC	40		NB	
15 6	D-Pal(3)	BZ	10	20	NB	
22	D-Trp	Car			4.09	2.67
23	D-Trp	Ac			6.87	0.14
24	D-Trp	For	50		NB	

20 * ¹²⁵I-[D-Trp]⁶LHRH used as the labelled ligand

NB, no binding

Table 3.

Antiovulatory activity and affinity of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A(Y)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ peptides for membrane receptors of human breast cancer cells.

5

No. of Peptide	Peptide		% Blockade of Ovulation		Affinity Constant	
	A	Y	0.75 μ g 1.5 μ g		K _a 1	K _a 2
					nM ⁻¹	uM ⁻¹
7	A ₂ pr	Car			6.27	5.72
10 8	A ₂ pr	Ac			1.57	6.16
9	A ₂ pr	EtCar	20	50	30.92	8.57
10	A ₂ pr	For	67	100	48.29	2.11
12	A ₂ pr	CHC			1.68	3.57
14	DL-A ₂ bu	Ac		20	4.83	0.26
15 15	DL-A ₂ bu	For	(25**)	100	NB	
16	DL-A ₂ bu	Car		33	NB	
18	DL-A ₂ bu	PRL	75		21.18	6.17
19	DL-A ₂ bu	LAU			0	0
20 21	DL-A ₂ bu	CHC			NB	
25	A ₂ pr-				3.49	1.29
26	DL-A ₂ bu-				NB	

* ¹²⁵I-[D-Trp]⁶LHRH used as the labelled ligand

** dose is 0.375 μ g

25 NB, no binding

Table 4.

LH-RH inhibiting activities of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-R³-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A₂pr(Y)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ antagonists in perfused rat pituitary cell system at various molar ratios of antagonist to LH-RH

5

% inhibition of LH response at different antagonist to LH-RH ratio

No. of Peptide	1:1				3:1			
	0 min	30 min	60 min	90 min	0 min	30 min	60 min	90 min
10 1	80	46	31		95	59	55	52
2	26	27	29	25	88	41	13	
3					93	43	26	24
4					91	50	42	41
15 5					95	60	60	60
6	50	40	35	30	82	63	60	55
22					64	22	24	
23					52	22	21	22
24	36	11	0	9	58	5	18	27

20

Table 5.

LH-RH inhibiting activities of Ac-D-Nal(2)-D-Phe(4Cl)-D-Pal(3)-Ser-Arg-D-Lys[A(Y)₂]-Leu-Arg-Pro-D-Ala-NH₂ antagonists in perfused rat pituitary cell system at various molar ratios of antagonist to LH-RH% inhibition of LH response at different antagonist

		to LH-RH ratio							
		1:1				3:1			
No. of	Peptide	0	30	60	90	0	30	60	90
	7	57	51	45	41	96	78	70	58
10	8	64	39	27	22	99	66	47	37
	9					90	72		
	14					80	63	51	53
	15	44	41	22	23	99	60	34	21
	16	52	33	24	28				
15	18					90	71	58	54
	19	20	20	0	0				
	25	57	49	43		85	69	62	57
	26	70	52	37		90	75	62	57

Table 6.
Effect of 25 μ g/day dose of Peptide 8 on the growth of Dunning R3327 prostate cancer in rats.

5	Time (week)	Size of tumor (mm ³)	
		Control group	Treated group
10	0	4326 \pm 1891*	4001 \pm 1617
	1	6901 \pm 2968	5459 \pm 1863
	2	9174 \pm 4507	5892 \pm 1938
	3	9465 \pm 4349	6357 \pm 2327
	4	12582 \pm 6659	6237 \pm 2974**
	5	12230 \pm 4848	7447 \pm 3481**
	6	14732 \pm 6597	8038 \pm 4374**
15	7	17796 \pm 8602	8129 \pm 3525***

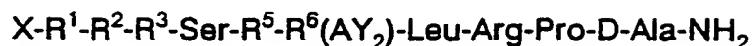
* SD

** p<0.05

*** p<0.01

CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the formula



5 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

wherein

R^1 is D-Phe, D-Phe(4Cl), D-Nal(1) or D-Nal(2),

R^2 is D-Phe or D-Phe(4Hl),

R^3 is D-Trp, D-Phe, D-Phe(4Hl), D-Nal(1), D-Nal(2) or D-Pal(3),

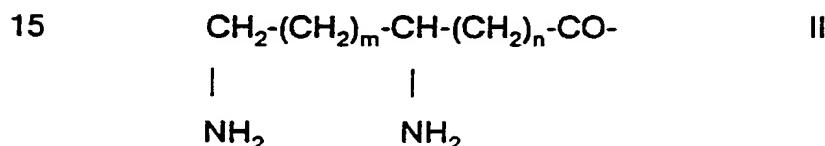
10 R^5 is Tyr or Arg,

R^6 is D-Lys or D-Orn,

Hl is fluoro, chloro or bromo

X is a lower alkanoyl group of 2-5 carbon atoms,

A is a diaminoacyl residue having the formula



where

m is 0 or 1,

20 n is 0 or 1,

Y is hydrogen or Y^1 or Y^2 ,

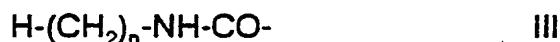
wherein

Y^1 is an acyl group derived from straight or branched chain aliphatic or alicyclic carboxylic acids having from 3 to 12 carbon atoms or aromatic carboxylic

25 acids of 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms,

Y^2 is a straight or branched chain aliphatic or alicyclic alkyl group,

Y^3 is carbamoyl or alkyl-substituted carbamoyl group having the formula



where n is 0-3.

30

2. A peptide of Claim 1, wherein Y is Y^1 , where Y^1 is formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, i-butyryl, cyclohexanoyl or benzoyl.

3. A peptide of Claim 2, wherein R¹ is D-Nal(2), R² is D-Phe(4Cl), R³ is D-Pal(3), R⁵ is Tyr, R⁶ is D-Lys, X is acetyl and A is 2,3-diaminopropionic acid.
4. A peptide of Claim 3, wherein Y¹ is formyl.
- 5
6. A peptide of Claim 3, wherein Y¹ is acetyl.
7. A peptide of Claim 2, wherein R¹ is D-Nal(2), R² is D-Phe(4Cl), R³ is D-Pal(3), R⁵ is Tyr, R⁶ is D-Lys, X is acetyl and A is 2,4-diaminobutyric acid.
8. A peptide of Claim 7, wherein Y¹ is formyl.
- 15 9. A peptide of Claim 7, wherein Y¹ is acetyl.
10. A peptide of Claim 7, wherein Y¹ is propionyl.
11. A peptide of Claim 2, wherein R¹ is D-Nal(2), R² is D-Phe(4Cl), R³ is D-Pal(3), R⁵ is Arg, R⁶ is D-Lys, X is acetyl and A is 2,3-diaminopropionic acid.
12. A peptide of Claim 11, wherein Y¹ is formyl.
13. A peptide of Claim 11, wherein Y¹ is acetyl.
- 25 14. A peptide of Claim 11, wherein Y¹ is propionyl.
15. A peptide of Claim 2, wherein R¹ is D-Nal(2), R² is D-Phe(4Cl), R³ is D-Trp, R⁵ is Arg, R⁶ is D-Lys, X is acetyl and A is 2,3-diaminopropionic acid.
- 30 16. A peptide of Claim 15, wherein Y¹ is formyl.

17. A peptide of Claim 15, wherein Y^1 is acetyl.

18. A peptide of Claim 1, wherein Y is Y^2 , where Y^2 is carbamoyl, N-methyl-carbamoyl or N-ethyl-carbamoyl.

5

19. A peptide of Claim 18, wherein R^1 is D-Nal(2), R^2 is D-Phe(4Cl), R^3 is D-Pal(3), R^5 is Tyr or Arg, R^6 is D-Lys, X is acetyl and A is 2,3-diaminopropionic acid or 2,4-diaminobutyric acid.

10 20. A peptide of Claim 19, wherein Y^2 is Car.

21. A peptide of Claim 19, wherein Y^2 is EtCar.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US 92/00776

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

(If several classification symbols apply, indicate all)⁶

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC

Int.C1. 5 C07K7/20; A61K37/43

II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum Documentation Searched⁷

Classification System	Classification Symbols
Int.C1. 5	C07K ; A61K

Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation
to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched⁸III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT⁹

Category ¹⁰	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
X	EP,A,0 364 819 (THE ADMINISTRATORS OF TULANE EDUCATIONAL FUND) 25 April 1990 PREPARATIONS VII,VIII,XIII,XIV ---	1
A	EP,A,0 299 402 (ASTA PHARMA A.G.) 18 January 1989 see the whole document ---	1-21
A	PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF USA. vol. 85, March 1988, WASHINGTON US pages 1637 - 1641; S.BAJUSZ C.S.: 'HIGHLY POTENT ANTAGONISTS OF LHRH FREE OF EDEMATOGENIC EFFECTS.' cited in the application see the whole document ---	1-21

¹⁰ Special categories of cited documents:

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- ^P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

^T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention^X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step^Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.^Z document member of the same patent family

IV. CERTIFICATION

Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search

Date of Mailing of this International Search Report

3

07 APRIL 1992

13. 04. 92

International Searching Authority

Signature of Authorized Officer

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

GROENENDIJK M.S.M.

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)		Relevant to Claim No.
Category *	Citation of Document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	
A	<p>J. STEROID BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY vol. 37, no. 6, 20 December 1990, OXFORD pages 1061 - 1067; A.V.SCHALLY C.S.: 'ANTITUMOR EFFECTS OF ANALOGS OF LHRH AND SOMATOSTATIN:EXPERIMENTAL AND CLINICAL STUDIES.' see the whole document</p> <p>----</p>	1-21

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO. US 9200776
SA 57085

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for those particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information. 07/04/92

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP-A-0364819	25-04-90	JP-A-	2157293	18-06-90
EP-A-0299402	18-01-89	US-A- DE-A- JP-A-	4800191 3823590 1034997	24-01-89 26-01-89 06-02-89